



US005862260A

**United States Patent** [19][11] **Patent Number:** **5,862,260****Rhoads**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Jan. 19, 1999****[54] METHODS FOR SURVEYING  
DISSEMINATION OF PROPRIETARY  
EMPIRICAL DATA**[75] Inventor: **Geoffrey B. Rhoads**, West Linn, Oreg.[73] Assignee: **Digimarc Corporation**, Lake Oswego,  
Oreg.[21] Appl. No.: **649,419**[22] Filed: **May 16, 1996****Related U.S. Application Data**

[63] Continuation of PCT/US96/06618, filed May 7, 1996 continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 637,531, Apr. 25, 1996, and a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 534,005, Sep. 25, 1995, and a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 598,083, Jul. 27, 1995, and a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 436,102, May 8, 1995, Pat. No. 5,748,783, and a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 327,426, Oct. 21, 1994, Pat. No. 5,768,426, which is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 215,289, Mar. 17, 1994, abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 154,866, Nov. 18, 1993, abandoned.

[51] Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup> ..... **G06K 9/36**[52] U.S. Cl. .... **382/232**

[58] Field of Search ..... **382/232, 284;**  
**395/135; 358/454, 448, 450, 142, 124;**  
**380/4, 23, 25, 54; 283/6, 93, 94; 348/475;**  
**235/494**

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An automated system checks networked computers, such as computers on the internet, for watermarked audio, video, or image data. A report listing the location of such audio, video or image data is generated, and provided to the proprietor(s) thereof identified by the watermark information.

**18 Claims, 34 Drawing Sheets**